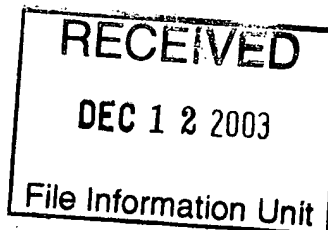


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In re Application of

*Nelson*

Application Number

07/579,569

Filed

9/10/90

Paper No.

#87

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United States Patent Application Publication No. \_\_\_\_\_, page, \_\_\_\_\_ line \_\_\_\_\_,

United States Patent Number 6,211,625, column \_\_\_\_\_, line, \_\_\_\_\_ or

WIPO Pub. No. \_\_\_\_\_, page \_\_\_\_\_, line \_\_\_\_\_.

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BA Harris

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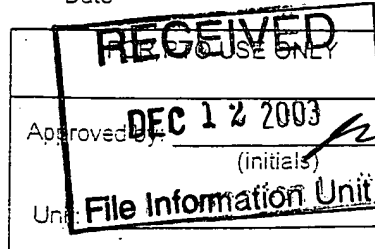
Registration Number, if applicable

703-415-0006

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12-12-03

Date



This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.14. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. BRING TO: File Information Unit, Crystal Plaza Three, Room 1D01, 2021 South Clark Place, Arlington, VA.

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US006211625B1

(12) **United States Patent**  
**Nilssen**

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,211,625 B1**  
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 3, 2001**

(54) **ELECTRONIC BALLAST WITH  
OVER-VOLTAGE PROTECTION**

(76) Inventor: **Ole K. Nilssen**, Caesar Dr., Barrington,  
IL (US) 60010

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this  
patent is extended or adjusted under 35  
U.S.C. 154(b) by 1388 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **08/571,634**

(22) Filed: **Dec. 13, 1995**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation of application No. 08/236,125, filed on May 3,  
1994, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application  
No. 07/579,569, filed on Sep. 10, 1990, now abandoned,  
which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 06/787,  
692, filed on Oct. 15, 1985, now abandoned, which is a  
continuation of application No. 06/644,155, filed on Aug.  
27, 1984, now abandoned, which is a continuation of applica-  
tion No. 06/555,426, filed on Nov. 23, 1983, now aban-  
doned, which is a continuation of application No. 06/178,  
107, filed on Aug. 14, 1980, now abandoned.

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... **H05B 37/00; H05B 37/02**

(52) U.S. Cl. .... **315/225; 315/311; 315/284;  
315/205; 315/225**

(58) Field of Search ..... **315/311, 284,  
315/205, 53, 225, 209 R**

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*Primary Examiner*—Arnold Kinkcad

(57) **ABSTRACT**

In an electronic ballast, a rapid start fluorescent lamp is  
powered by being parallel-connected with the tank-capacitor  
of a series-resonant LC circuit. Beating power for the lamp's  
cathodes is obtained by way of loosely-coupled auxiliary  
windings on the tank inductor of the LC circuit. In case the  
fluorescent lamp were to be disconnected or otherwise were  
to fail to properly load the series-resonant LC circuit, due to  
so-called Q-multiplication, the magnitude of the voltage  
developed across the tank-capacitor would normally increase  
to a high and potentially destructive level. However, due to  
feedback operable to cause the inverter frequency to  
increase as a function of the magnitude of the voltage across  
the tank-capacitor, the magnitude of this tank-capacitor  
voltage is limited to a level substantially lower than what  
otherwise would be the case.

**17 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets**

